

*Listing of Claims*

1. (Previously Presented): A magnetic recording medium having a substrate, a magnetic interlayer and a layer of magnetic recording material thereon, the magnetic recording material comprising an initial paramagnetic layer and a final recording layer, wherein the initial paramagnetic layer comprises a Cobalt alloy having a thickness of about 0.9 Å and a noble metal layer having a thickness of about 1 nm.
2. (Original): The magnetic recording medium as recited in claim 1, wherein the noble metal is palladium.
3. (Original): The magnetic recording medium as recited in claim 1, wherein the noble metal is platinum.
4. (Canceled)
5. (Canceled)
6. (Previously Presented): The magnetic recording medium as recited in claim 1, wherein the final recording layer comprises a second Cobalt alloy having a thickness of about 2-6 Å and a second noble metal layer having a thickness about 1 nm.
7. (Previously Presented): The magnetic recording medium as recited in claim 6, wherein the final recording layer is further comprised of a laminated structure such that the final recording layer includes about 8-20 alternating layers of the second Cobalt alloy and the second noble metal.

8. (Previously Presented): The magnetic recording medium as recited in claim 7, wherein the final recording layer comprises 15 alternating layers of the second Cobalt alloy and the second noble metal.
9. (Canceled):
10. (Previously Presented): The magnetic recording medium as recited in claim 1, wherein the initial paramagnetic layer is further comprised of a laminated structure such the initial paramagnetic layer includes about 1-3 alternating layers of the Cobalt alloy and the noble metal.
11. (Original): The magnetic recording medium as recited in claim 1, wherein the Cobalt alloy is comprised of Cobalt and one or more of the group consisting of boron, chromium, tantalum, francium, platinum, tungsten, manganese, molybdenum, ruthenium, silicon, nickel, copper, or gold.
12. (Previously Presented): The magnetic recording medium as recited in claim 1, wherein the Cobalt alloy is comprised of  $\text{CoCr}_{40}$ .
13. (Canceled)
14. (Currently Amended): A magnetic recording medium comprising:
  - a. a substrate;
  - b. a soft magnetic underlayer; and

- c. an initial paramagnetic layer having 1-3 layers of a Cobalt alloy, each layer being about .9 Å in thickness; and
  - d. ~~a magnetic recording material including alternating layers of an initial paramagnetic Cobalt alloy and a perpendicular recording material having~~ including alternating layers of a Cobalt Alloy and a noble metal.
15. (Currently Amended): A magnetic recording medium as recited in claim 14, ~~further comprising:~~ wherein
- a. ~~an initial paramagnetic layer having 1-3 layers, each layer having a thickness of about 0.9 Å; and~~
  - b. the ~~final~~ perpendicular recording material ~~having~~ has 8-20 layers of the Cobalt alloy, each Cobalt alloy layer having a thickness of about 2-6 Å and each noble metal layer having a thickness of about 1 nm.
16. (Previously Presented): A magnetic recording medium as recited in claim 15, wherein the Cobalt alloy is further comprised of CoCr<sub>40</sub>.
17. (Original): A magnetic recording medium as recited in claim 15, wherein the Cobalt alloy is further comprised of Cobalt and boron, chromium, tantalum, francium, platinum, tungsten, manganese, molybdenum, ruthenium, silicon, nickel, copper, or gold.
18. (Original): A magnetic recording medium as recited in claim 16 or 17, wherein the noble metal is palladium.

19. (Original): A magnetic recording medium as recited in claim 16 or 17, wherein the noble metal is platinum.
20. (Previously Presented): A magnetic recording medium having a substrate, a magnetic interlayer and a layer of magnetic recording material thereon, the magnetic recording material comprising a paramagnetic Cobalt alloy of less than 1.5 Å and a final recording layer of about 2-6 Å in thickness.
21. (Previously Presented): A magnetic recording medium as recited in claim 20, wherein the paramagnetic Cobalt alloy is about 0.9 Å in thickness.
22. (Previously Presented): A magnetic recording medium as recited in claim 20, wherein the final recording layer is further comprised of alternating layers of a second Cobalt alloy and a noble metal.
23. (Previously Presented): A magnetic recording medium as recited in claim 22, wherein the second Cobalt alloy layers are each approximately 2-6 Å and the noble metal layers are each about 8-15 Å thick.
24. (Previously Presented): A magnetic recording medium as recited in claim 23, wherein each second Cobalt alloy layer is about 3 Å thick and each noble metal layer is about 1 Å in thickness.
25. (Previously Presented): A magnetic recording medium as recited in claim 24, wherein the noble metal is palladium.

26. (Previously Presented): A magnetic recording medium having a substrate, a magnetic interlayer and a layer of magnetic recording material thereon, the magnetic recording material comprising an initial paramagnetic layer and a final recording layer, wherein the initial paramagnetic layer comprises a Cobalt alloy having a thickness of less than 1.5 Å and a noble metal layer having a thickness of about 1 nm.

27. (Previously Presented): A magnetic recording medium, comprising:

- a. an initial paramagnetic material layer comprising alternating layers of Cobalt alloy and noble metal, wherein the Cobalt alloy layers are less than 1.5 angstroms; and
- b. a final recording multilayer comprising alternating layers of Cobalt alloy and noble metal, wherein the Cobalt alloy layers of the final recording multilayer are thicker than the Cobalt alloy layers of the initial paramagnetic layer such that there is no magnetic coupling between the neighboring grains of the Cobalt layers of the initial paramagnetic material layer.

28. (Previously Presented): The magnetic recording medium of Claim 27, wherein the noble metal layers of the initial paramagnetic layers are about 1 nm.

29. (Previously Presented): The magnetic recording medium of Claim 27, wherein the Cobalt alloy layers of the final recording multilayer are about 3 angstroms.

30. (Previously Presented) The magnetic recording medium of Claim 27, wherein the noble metal layers of the final recording multilayer are between approximately 8 angstroms and approximately 15 angstroms in thickness.

31. (Cancelled)